

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:
2 a fuel cell;
3 a secondary secondary power source; and
4 a controller to multiplex the fuel cell and secondary power source.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to signal a load
2 device to reduce a load.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to start the fuel
2 cell and provide power from the secondary power source while the fuel cell is
3 starting.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to start the fuel
2 cell and to signal a load device that the fuel cell is starting.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is adapted to charge the
2 secondary power source with the fuel cell.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 further including an interface to a load device, the
2 interface including:
3 at least one power conductor; and
4 at least one signal conductor to signal a state of the controller.
- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the at least one signal conductor includes a
2 conductor to signal a load device to reduce a load.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a
2 battery.

- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the battery comprises a Lithium-Ion
2 battery.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the battery comprises a Nickel-Metal-
2 Hydride battery.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a
2 capacitor.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the capacitor comprises a supercapacitor.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the secondary power source comprises a
2 battery and a supercapacitor.
- 1 14. A method comprising:
2 starting a fuel cell; and
3 while the fuel cell is starting, signaling a load device to reduce a load.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:
2 while the fuel cell is starting, providing power from a secondary power
3 source.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power
2 source comprises providing power from a battery.
- 1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power
2 source comprises providing power from a capacitor.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein providing power from a secondary power
2 source comprises providing power from a battery and capacitor combination.

1 19. The method of claim 15 further comprising signaling a load device to reduce
2 a load if the secondary power source becomes depleted.

1 20. An apparatus including a medium adapted to hold machine-accessible
2 instructions that when accessed result in a machine performing:
3 starting a fuel cell; and
4 while the fuel cell is starting, signaling a load device to reduce a load.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:
2 while the fuel cell is starting, providing power from a secondary power
3 source.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein providing power from a secondary power
2 source comprises providing power from a battery and capacitor combination.

1 23. An electronic system comprising:
2 a fuel cell;
3 a secondary power source;
4 a controller to multiplex the fuel cell and secondary power source; and
5 a load device that includes an antenna.

1 24. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the controller is adapted to signal
2 the load device to reduce a load.

1 25. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the controller is adapted to start
2 the fuel cell and provide power from the secondary power source while the fuel cell
3 is starting.

1 26. The electronic system of claim 23 wherein the electronic system comprises a
2 computer.

1 27. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the fuel cell is external to the
2 computer.

1 28. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the fuel cell is in a swappable bay
2 of the computer.

1 29. The electronic system of claim 28 wherein the fuel cell is semi-permanently
2 affixed within the computer.